where:

M represents the corresponding radical of a biologically active molecule selected from the group consisting of proteins, peptides, and polypeptides;

B1 cont.

FE represents a functionalizing entity selected from the group consisting of PEG, PVP, PacM, dextran, hormones, antibodies, and antibody fragments; and

L represents a linking arm comprising a dipeptide selected from the group consisting of Met-Nle, Met-βAla, Gln-Gly, and Asp-Pro,

which is capable of being cleaved by chemical treatment to leave Nle, βAla, Gly or Pro, respectively, as a reporter group linked to M.

6. (Amended) The biologically active conjugate derivative according to claim 1 characterised in that said biologically active molecule is a protein selected from the group consisting of insulin, lysozyme, interferon, erythropoietin, G-CSF, and GH.

B2

7. (Amended) A method for identifying linkage sites of conjugation of the functionalizing entity FE selected from the group consisting of PEG, PVP, PacM, dextran, hormones, antibodies, and antibody fragments, on the biologically active drug conjugate derivative of claim 1, along the biologically active molecule M, which method comprises a specific chemical cleavage of the linking arm L comprising a dipeptide selected from the group consisting of Met-Nle, Met-βAla, Gln-Gly, and Asp-Pro, releasing after removing and separating FE by classical methods, to leave Nle, βAla, Gly or Pro, respectively, as a reporter group linked to M.

8. (Amended) An intermediate compound, for the preparation of the biologically active conjugate of claim 1, having the following general formula (II)

FE - L (II)

where

B2 cont.

FE represents a functionalizing entity selected from the group consisting of PEG, PVP, PacM, dextran, hormones, antibodies, and antibody fragments; and

L represents a linking arm comprising a dipeptide selected from the group consisting of Met-Nle, Met-βAla, Gin-Gly, and Asp-Pro.

Kindly enter the following new claims.

9. (New) The biologically active conjugate derivative according to claim 1 characterized in that said biologically active molecule is an interferon.

B3

10. (New) The biologically active conjugate derivative according to claim 9 characterized in that said biologically active molecule is interferon α-2b.

11. (New) The biologically active conjugate derivative according to claim 1 characterized in that said biologically active molecule is selected from the group consisting of erythropoietin, G-CSF, and GH.

12. (New) The biologically active conjugate derivative according to claim 1 characterized in that said linking arm is Met-Nle.

13. (New) The biologically active conjugate derivative according to claim 1 characterized in that said linking arm is Met-βAla.